



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

### 2010 REGULAR SESSION

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HOUSE BILL NO. 51

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2010

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The following bill was reported to the Senate from the House and ordered to be printed.

RECEIVED AND FILED  
DATE March 4, 2010  
4:13 pm  
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TREY GRAYSON  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BY R. Adler

AN ACT relating to suicide prevention training.

***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

1        ➔ Section 1. KRS 156.095 is amended to read as follows:

2        (1) The Kentucky Department of Education shall establish, direct, and maintain a  
3        statewide program of professional development to improve instruction in the public  
4        schools.

5        (2) Each local school district superintendent shall appoint a certified school employee  
6        to fulfill the role and responsibilities of a professional development coordinator who  
7        shall disseminate professional development information to schools and personnel.  
8        Upon request by a school council or any employees of the district, the coordinator  
9        shall provide technical assistance to the council or the personnel that may include  
10       assisting with needs assessments, analyzing school data, planning and evaluation  
11       assistance, organizing districtwide programs requested by school councils or groups  
12       of teachers, or other coordination activities.

13       (a) The manner of appointment, qualifications, and other duties of the  
14       professional development coordinator shall be established by Kentucky Board  
15       of Education through promulgation of administrative regulations.

16       (b) The local district professional development coordinator shall participate in the  
17       Kentucky Department of Education annual training program for local school  
18       district professional development coordinators. The training program may  
19       include, but not be limited to, the demonstration of various approaches to  
20       needs assessment and planning; strategies for implementing long-term,  
21       school-based professional development; strategies for strengthening teachers'  
22       roles in the planning, development, and evaluation of professional  
23       development; and demonstrations of model professional development  
24       programs. The training shall include information about teacher learning  
25       opportunities relating to the core content standards. The Kentucky Department

1 of Education shall regularly collect and distribute this information.

2 (3) The Kentucky Department of Education shall provide or facilitate optional,  
3 professional development programs for certified personnel throughout the  
4 Commonwealth that are based on the statewide needs of teachers, administrators,  
5 and other education personnel. Programs may include classified staff and parents  
6 when appropriate. Programs offered or facilitated by the department shall be at  
7 locations and times convenient to local school personnel and shall be made  
8 accessible through the use of technology when appropriate. They shall include  
9 programs that: address the goals for Kentucky schools as stated in KRS 158.6451,  
10 including reducing the achievement gaps as determined by an equity analysis of the  
11 disaggregated student performance data from the state assessment program  
12 developed under KRS 158.6453; engage educators in effective learning processes  
13 and foster collegiality and collaboration; and provide support for staff to incorporate  
14 newly acquired skills into their work through practicing the skills, gathering  
15 information about the results, and reflecting on their efforts. Professional  
16 development programs shall be made available to teachers based on their needs  
17 which shall include but not be limited to the following areas:

- 18 (a) Strategies to reduce the achievement gaps among various groups of students  
19 and to provide continuous progress;
- 20 (b) Curriculum content and methods of instruction for each content area,  
21 including differentiated instruction;
- 22 (c) School-based decision making;
- 23 (d) Assessment literacy;
- 24 (e) Integration of performance-based student assessment into daily classroom  
25 instruction;
- 26 (f) Nongraded primary programs;
- 27 (g) Research-based instructional practices;

- 1 (h) Instructional uses of technology;
- 2 (i) Curriculum design to serve the needs of students with diverse learning styles
- 3 and skills and of students of diverse cultures;
- 4 (j) Instruction in reading, including phonics, phonemic awareness,
- 5 comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary;
- 6 (k) Educational leadership; and
- 7 (l) Strategies to incorporate character education throughout the curriculum.
- 8 (4) The department shall assist school personnel in assessing the impact of professional
- 9 development on their instructional practices and student learning.
- 10 (5) The department shall assist districts and school councils with the development of
- 11 long-term school and district improvement plans that include multiple strategies for
- 12 professional development based on the assessment of needs at the school level.
- 13 (a) Professional development strategies may include, but are not limited to,
- 14 participation in subject matter academies, teacher networks, training institutes,
- 15 workshops, seminars, and study groups; collegial planning; action research;
- 16 mentoring programs; appropriate university courses; and other forms of
- 17 professional development.
- 18 (b) In planning the use of the four (4) days for professional development under
- 19 KRS 158.070, school councils and districts shall give priority to programs that
- 20 increase teachers' understanding of curriculum content and methods of
- 21 instruction appropriate for each content area based on individual school plans.
- 22 The district may use up to one (1) day to provide district-wide training and
- 23 training that is mandated by state or federal law. Only those employees
- 24 identified in the mandate or affected by the mandate shall be required to attend
- 25 the training.
- 26 (c) State funds allocated for professional development shall be used to support
- 27 professional development initiatives that are consistent with local school

improvement and professional development plans and teachers' individual growth plans. The funds may be used throughout the year for all staff, including classified and certified staff and parents on school councils or committees. A portion of the funds allocated to each school council under KRS 160.345 may be used to prepare or enhance the teachers' knowledge and teaching practices related to the content and subject matter that are required for their specific classroom assignments.

(6) (a) By August 1, 2010, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall post on its Web page suicide prevention awareness information, to include recognizing the warning signs of a suicide crisis. The Web page shall include information related to suicide prevention training opportunities offered by the cabinet or an agency recognized by the cabinet as a training provider.

(b) By September 1, 2010, and September 1 of each year thereafter, every public middle and high school administrator shall disseminate suicide prevention awareness information to all middle and high school students. The information may be obtained from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or from a commercially developed suicide prevention training program.

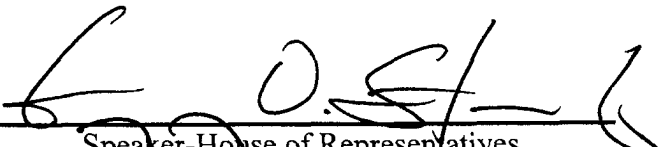
(7) The Department of Education shall establish an electronic consumer bulletin board that posts information regarding professional development providers and programs as a service to school district central office personnel, school councils, teachers, and administrators. Participation on the electronic consumer bulletin board shall be voluntary for professional development providers or vendors, but shall include all programs sponsored by the department. Participants shall provide the following information: program title; name of provider or vendor; qualifications of the presenters or instructors; objectives of the program; program length; services

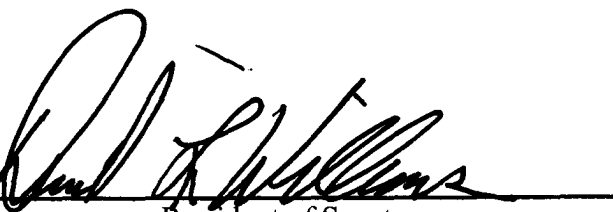
provided, including follow-up support; costs for participation and costs of materials; names of previous users of the program, addresses, and telephone numbers; and arrangements required. Posting information on the bulletin board by the department shall not be viewed as an endorsement of the quality of any specific provider or program.

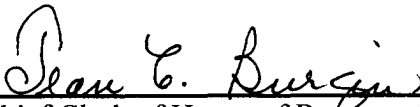
~~(8)~~~~(7)~~ The Department of Education shall provide training to address the characteristics and instructional needs of students at risk of school failure and most likely to drop out of school. The training shall be developed to meet the specific needs of all certified and classified personnel depending on their relationship with these students. The training for instructional personnel shall be designed to provide and enhance skills of personnel to:

- (a) Identify at-risk students early in elementary schools as well as at-risk and potential dropouts in the middle and high schools;
- (b) Plan specific instructional strategies to teach at-risk students;
- (c) Improve the academic achievement of students at risk of school failure by providing individualized and extra instructional support to increase expectations for targeted students;
- (d) Involve parents as partners in ways to help their children and to improve their children's academic progress; and
- (e) Significantly reduce the dropout rate of all students.

~~(9)~~~~(8)~~ The department shall establish teacher academies to the extent funding is available in cooperation with postsecondary education institutions for elementary, middle school, and high school faculty in core disciplines, utilizing facilities and faculty from universities and colleges, local school districts, and other appropriate agencies throughout the state. Priority for participation shall be given to those teachers who are teaching core discipline courses for which they do not have a major or minor or the equivalent. Participation of teachers shall be voluntary.

  
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Speaker-House of Representatives

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Senate

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of House of Representatives

Approved   
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Governor

Date March 4, 2010